## I Saw the Sign...Tinker's Creek Watershed Sign That Is!

You may have noticed new signage near major roadways spotlighting Tinker's Creek, Entering Tinker's Creek Watershed and Leaving Tinker's Creek Watershed. Have you seen them and wondered what they meant?

The signage is part of a watershed awareness campaign spearheaded by Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners in partnership with watershed communities. The aim of the campaign is to bring awareness to the physical boundaries of the watershed, and location of Tinker's Creek to create a greater understanding of the connectedness of our water resources.

In 2012, Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners was awarded an Ohio Environmental Education Fund (OEEF) Mini-grant of \$4,000 to implement the watershed signage campaign. The following communities are participating in the campaign: Bedford, Glenwillow, Oakwood, Macedonia, Streetsboro, Twinsburg and Walton Hills. TCWP is working with the other watershed communities to put up the remaining signage and is investigating additional funding resources to complete the project throughout the watershed.

Look for the signs going up throughout the watershed! You can help spread the message about the watershed. If you see a signs, take a picture, post it to our <u>Facebook page</u>, and tell us where you found it!

## Q&A About the Tinker's Creek Watershed Signage:

What is the Tinker's Creek watershed? First what is a watershed? A watershed is an area of land that drains rain and snow into a common body of water such as a stream, river, or lake. Our landscape is made up of interconnected watersheds. The Tinker's Creek watershed drains water from 24 communities into Tinker's Creek which is the largest tributary to the Cuyahoga River.

Why should I care? In Northeast Ohio we are lucky to have plenty of freshwater. However protecting water quality is a growing challenge for the region and it can be costly to remove pollutants and debris for our water resources for drinking and recreational use.

How can I help be part of the solutions to project our water resources? There are a number of things that we all can do to protect water resources. Supporting local initiatives and policies that protect streams and wetlands is one way. Another way is reducing the amount of chemicals such as fertilizers and pesticides that are used around your property. Excess lawn and garden chemicals end up in local streams, creating poor water quality.